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Idaho Milk Production Up 15 percent

Idaho milk production during October 1999 totaled 569 million pounds, up 15 percent from the same month last year and up 16 million pounds from September 1999. Average milk production per cow in October 1999 was 1,740 pounds, up 80 pounds from October 1998 and up 40 pounds from September 1999. The average number of milk cows in October was 327,000 head, 29,000 more than in October 1998 and 2,000 more than in September 1999.

Nationally, October milk production in the 20 major States totaled 11.6 billion pounds, up 4.3 percent from production in these same States in October 1998. September revised production, at 11.2 billion pounds, was up 4.9 percent from September 1998. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,496 pounds for October, 50 pounds above October 1998. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.75 million head, 57,000 head more than October 1998 but 1,000 head less than September 1999.

Milk Production, Average Number of Cows, Selected States, October 1998-1999

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		1999 As Percent of 1998
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	
	<i>1,000 Head</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		
Arizona	132	135	1,650	1,725	218	233	107
California	1,432	1,480	1,650	1,760	2,363	2,605	110
Florida	158	157	1,030	1,085	163	170	104
IDAHO	298	327	1,660	1,740	495	569	115
Illinois	126	121	1,340	1,340	169	162	96
Indiana	137	135	1,300	1,325	178	179	101
Iowa	221	215	1,420	1,455	314	313	100
Kentucky	137	131	970	1,000	133	131	98
Michigan	300	295	1,505	1,540	452	454	100
Minnesota	545	545	1,375	1,395	749	760	101
Missouri	167	161	1,125	1,150	188	185	98
New Mexico	219	235	1,680	1,685	368	396	108
New York	702	702	1,380	1,420	969	997	103
Ohio	262	259	1,350	1,410	354	365	103
Pennsylvania	621	617	1,415	1,450	879	895	102
Texas	342	346	1,260	1,255	431	434	101
Vermont	160	160	1,380	1,395	221	223	101
Virginia	123	121	1,205	1,315	148	159	107
Washington	247	246	1,815	1,890	448	465	104
Wisconsin	1,366	1,364	1,380	1,395	1,885	1,903	101
20 STATE TOTAL	7,695	7,752	1,446	1,496	11,125	11,598	104

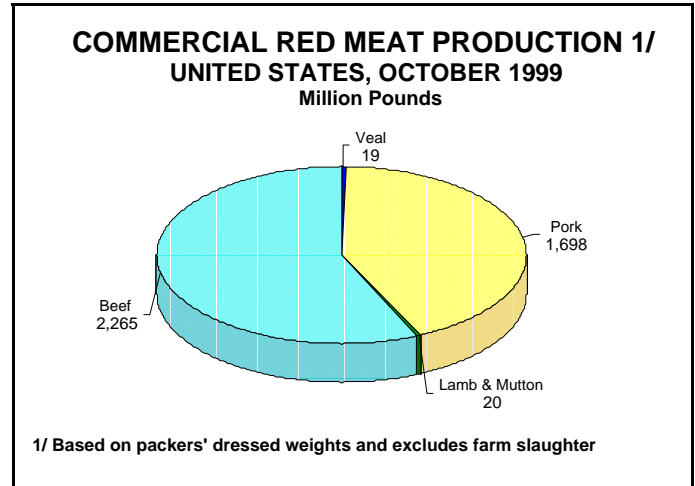
1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

IDAHO RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP 10 PERCENT

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for October 1999 totaled 52.5 million pounds, up 10 percent from last year. October production showed a 2 percent increase from September's 51.7 million pounds. Accumulated red meat production for the January - October 1999 period totaled 477.2 million pounds, up 5 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Red meat production for the United States totaled 4.00 billion pounds in October, down 1 percent from the 4.03 billion pounds produced in October 1998. Beef production, at 2.26 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.09 million head, up 1 percent from 1998. The average live weight was down 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,213 pounds. Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.95 million head, 4 percent below 1998. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 259 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 20.0 million pounds, was down 4 percent from the previous record low for October set last year. Sheep slaughter totaled 305 thousand head, 6 percent below last year. The average live weight was 130 pounds, up 3 pounds from

October a year ago. January - October red meat production was 38.4 billion pounds, 2 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 2 percent, and lamb and mutton was down 4 percent.



Commercial Red Meat Production, Selected States and United States ^{1/}

State	October 1998	September 1999	October 1999	October 1999 As Percent Of 2/	
				October 1998	September 1999
	<i>Million Pounds</i>			<i>Percent</i>	
California	92.4	* 87.9	89.2	97	101
Colorado	166.2	176.7	165.0	99	93
IDAHO	47.6	51.7	52.5	110	102
Illinois	238.1	226.7	230.0	97	101
Iowa	576.2	541.3	558.8	97	103
Kansas	508.4	538.3	539.9	106	100
Minnesota	182.8	173.3	186.1	102	107
Montana	2.0	2.1	1.6	78	76
Nebraska	586.6	589.5	596.2	102	101
Nevada	0.1	0.1	0.1	92	78
Oklahoma	72.5	74.1	81.4	112	110
Oregon	3.6	3.9	3.6	101	92
South Dakota	92.0	82.5	85.7	93	104
Texas	420.3	431.4	411.1	98	95
Utah	42.0	43.4	41.5	99	96
Washington	61.3	67.9	64.6	105	95
Wyoming	0.3	0.5	0.3	101	54
UNITED STATES	4,034.8	3,934.2	4,001.0	99	102

* Revised. 1/ Includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton. 2/ Percentages based on unrounded data.

Idaho Cattle On Feed Up 20 Percent

Cattle on feed for the slaughter market in Idaho from feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head on November 1, 1999 totaled 325,000 head, up 20 percent from the November 1, 1998 inventory of 270,000 head. The inventory was up 5 percent from the number on hand as of October 1, 1999.

Placements of cattle into State feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 or more head during October totaled 76,000 head, up 9,000 head from October 1998 placements. Marketings during October totaled 58,000 head, up 19,000 head from October 1998 marketings.

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in the United States from feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.46 million head on November 1, 1999. The inventory was 6 percent above November 1, 1998 and 4 percent above November 1, 1997. Placements in feedlots during October totaled 3.09 million, 9 percent above 1998 and 6 percent above 1997. Net placements were 3.01 million. During October, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 1,020,000, 600-699 pounds were 797,000, 700-799 pounds were 687,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 588,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.83 million, 3 percent above 1998 and 1 percent above 1997. Other disappearance totaled 80,000 during October, 54 percent above 1998 but 12 percent below 1997.

Cattle on Feed: Number of Feed, 1000 + Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

State	November 1, 1998	October 1, 1999	November 1, 1999		
			Number	As % of 1998	As % of October
	---1,000 Head---		---Percent---		
Arizona	205	208	239	117	115
California	400	380	395	99	104
Colorado	1,170	1,070	1,220	104	114
Idaho	270	310	325	120	105
Iowa	295	315	345	117	110
Kansas	2,260	2,240	2,390	106	107
Nebraska	2,030	1,900	2,250	111	118
New Mexico	107	91	107	100	118
Oklahoma	430	380	435	101	114
South Dakota	166	111	157	95	141
Texas	2,830	2,670	2,930	104	110
Washington	211	246	257	122	104
Other States	410	345	405	99	117
United States	10,784	10,266	11,455	106	112

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

Frozen Potato Stocks Down 2 Percent From 1998

Frozen stocks of french fries in the United States on October 31, 1999, totaled 1.1 billion pounds, up 7 percent from September 30, 1999, and up slightly from October 31, 1998. Other frozen potatoes, at 234.6 million pounds, increased 1 percent from September stocks but decreased 11 percent from last year.

United States stocks of butter on October 31, 1999, totaled 59.9 million pounds, down 16 percent from the end of the previous month, but up 92 percent from October 31, 1998. Of this 59.9 million pounds, the government owned 368,000 pounds. Stocks of American cheese totaled 457 million pounds, down 4 percent from September 30, 1999, but up 16 percent from October 31, 1998. The government owned 53,000 pounds of the American cheese stocks.

Commodity	Oct. 31, 1998	Sept. 30, 1999	Oct. 31, 1999	1999 1998
	----1,000 Pounds----			Percent
POTATOES:				
French Fries	1,076,256	1,002,245	1,076,591	100
Other Frozen	264,713	233,301	234,602	89
TOTAL	1,340,969	1,235,546	1,311,193	98
DAIRY PRODUCTS:				
Butter, Total	31,164	71,473	59,864	192
(Gov't Owned)	8	214	368	
Natural Cheese				
American, Total	394,692	474,846	456,976	116
(Gov't Owned)	216	9	53	25

October Farm Labor

For the Mountain I Region of the U.S. (Idaho, Montana and Wyoming), there were 30,000 hired workers on farms and ranches the week of October 10-16, 1999, 3,000 less than the number of hired workers the week of October 11-17, 1998. Hired workers worked an average of 47.1 hours during the survey week at an average wage of \$7.36 per hour, up 33 cents from last year.

There were 1.29 million hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 10-16, 1999, up 3 percent from a year ago. There were 989,000 workers hired

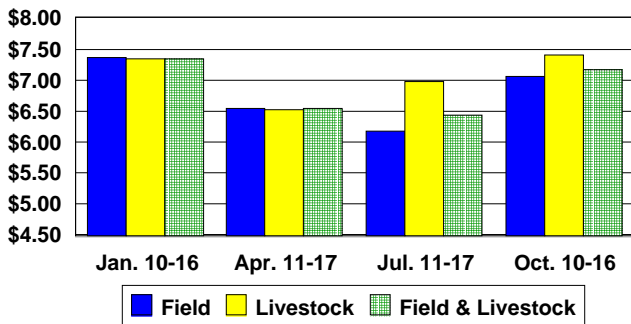
directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 296,000 workers. Migrant workers accounted for 12 percent of the October hired workforce compared to 11 percent last year.

Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$7.83 per hour during the October 1999 survey week, up 23 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$7.31 per hour, up 16 cents from last October. Livestock workers earned \$7.43 per hour compared with \$7.28 a year earlier.

WAGE RATES BY TYPE OF WORKER

1999 - MOUNTAIN REGION 1/

Dollars per Hour

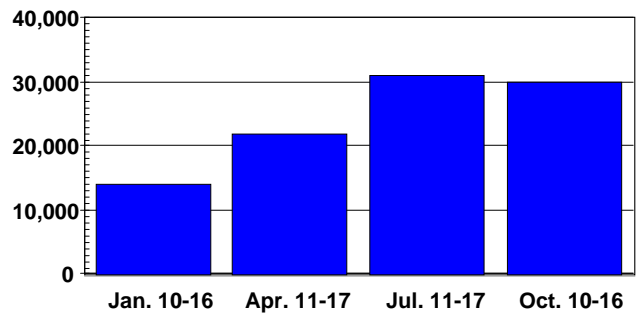


1/ Idaho, Wyoming, Montana
Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service

HIRED WORKERS

1999 - MOUNTAIN REGION 1/

Number of Workers



Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service